



Minutes of Meeting
CITIZENS' EFFICIENCY COMMISSION
May 14, 2014

ATTENDANCE

Citizens' Efficiency Commissioners

	Larry Bomke	X	Robert Plunk
X	Josh Collins	X	J.D. Sudeth
X	James Donelan	X	Joan Walters
	Karen Hasara	X	Robert Wesley
X	Jackie Newman		

Others

Norm Sims- SSCRPC

Amy Uden- SSCRPC

Jeff Fulgenzi- SSCRPC

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Joan Walters called the meeting of the Citizens' Efficiency Commission to order. New commissioners were introduced to the group.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Josh Collins moved to approve the minutes from the last CEC meeting. Ms. Jackie Newman seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

III. APPROVAL OF BYLAWS

Chair Walters reminded the group that they had reviewed and proposed amendments to bylaws at their last meeting. In the interim, Vice-chair Robert Plunk had offered one minor amendment. Provided these updated bylaws, Mr. Collins moved to approve the new bylaws. Mr. Plunk seconded the motion, and the bylaws were adopted as amended.

IV. REPORT ON REGIONAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

Vice-chair Plunk reported on the Regional Leadership Council Meeting on April 30th, at which several current and former CEC members had been in attendance. CEC members had been asked by the RLC to present regarding the CEC's Fire/EMS Recommendation. Mr. Plunk reported that the presentation had outlined information on what the report contained, what it did *not* contain, and the CEC's sources and methodology for providing reliable and valid data. He indicated that some mayors had voice concern about fire coverage, and that the group had generally expressed support for the CEC's recommendation. Gary Crompton, the former CEC member who had been appointed by the Fire Protection Districts (FPD) and has extensive background in emergency services and FPD administration, had presented the information. He noted that the CEC had received word of significant informal criticism for this document, but had not had any formal indication of what the FPDs' concerns were. The RLC had determined that it would form a committee to pursue this issue, including representatives from the City of Springfield, Sangamon County,

rural FPDs, and the CEC. This committee is to be formed and report back to the RLC at its July quarterly meeting. Mr. Plunk indicated that he would call Mayor Yokley of Williamsville for an update on the progress of the RLC in forming this committee.

V. DISCUSSION OF CEC PHILOSOPHY AND APPROACH

Chair Walters asked SSCRPC staff to describe the differences between the CEC's first term establishing resolution and the one that had reinstated it for its present term. The primary distinction was the phrase "to implement its recommendations" as part of the referendum language. The CEC discussed what is meant by implementation, including analyzing and advocating for legislation, making recommendations to local jurisdictions, and potentially presenting information to city councils, other governing bodies, and citizens as well as members of the media.

The CEC also discussed what it might do to implement some of the themes identified in its work by bolstering capacity of local units through tools like the Leadership Council. Empowering allies and nudging communities to move forward on these concepts were presented as important steps for alleviating root causes of many of the CEC's recommendations. The group noted that this should be an agenda item again for further discussion at its June meeting.

The CEC then discussed potential implementation actions, with its Fire and EMS Recommendation as an example. It questioned what implementation means, as well as what efforts the CEC should take to defend its credibility when other groups questioned elements of the report. Mr. Wesley stated that he would like to receive some form of formal recognition or support from the County Board, given its role in extending the work of the CEC and some of the recent controversies surrounding the CEC's recommendations. Generally, the group discussed that it would be important for the CEC to understand what level of support the CEC had from various elected bodies. They determined that Chair Walters should reach out to County Board Chair Van Meter for a meeting to discuss these matters. Chair Walters also asked SSCRPC to lay out its perception of a potential sample implementation plan related to this or another recommendation for the CEC's guidance and use as an example.

The CEC also discussed that in its first year, it may wish to pursue implementation of current themes and recommendations before proceeding with new recommendations. The group determined that it would be important to define a process for pursuing both recommendations and "meta-issues" it had uncovered in its work. They decided that at their next meeting, they would specifically discuss each recommendation, potential approaches for implementation, and potential categorization and prioritization schemes, toward the goal of developing a CEC work plan for the coming year.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

SSCRPC staff indicated to the CEC that at a staff presentation to the Chatham Chamber of Commerce regarding the Regional Strategic Plan for Sangamon County, a side conversation had arisen related to the CEC's Fire/EMS Recommendation with Chatham Chief Phil Schumer. After considerable debate and discussion, SSCRPC



staff felt that Chatham FPD officials had a better understanding of the CEC's document. SSCRPC staff indicated that they had welcomed further discussion with Chief Schumer, who had later emailed indicating the Regional MABAS board would like to speak to the CEC regarding its recommendation. SSCRPC staff had responded asking Chief Schumer to send a letter requesting a meeting between the CEC and MABAS and provided the CEC meeting calendar to Chief Schumer. The CEC indicated that they would enthusiastically welcome such a meeting, as well as an opportunity to speak on this matter.

Mr. Plunk also raised the question of the CEC's on-going relationship with the RLC. He expressed a desire to ensure that the CEC maintain a strong on-going relationship with this group, particularly so that SSCRPC staff is not placed in challenging situations by providing staff support to each body. Chair Walters and Vice-chair Plunk agreed that they would each try to attend RLC meetings in the future.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Chair Walters indicated that the next Commission meeting date will be June 11th at 3:00 pm, in the SSCRPC Conference Room 212.

She asked for new business. No members presented new business, and no members of the public were in attendance. Chair Walters reiterated action steps that the CEC would take before its next meeting. Mr. J.D. Sudeth also asked that SSCRPC staff provide information on what legislation is involved in getting the CEC's recommendations implemented, and what legislative changes might be needed.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments, Chair Walters called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Wesley made the motion with Mr. Donelan seconding. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Uden
Acting as Recording Secretary